

Dear Padre,

Why should I be confirmed?

In baptism, God calls you to be a priest, prophet and king. In confirmation, you receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit to live out those vocations. A priest offers prayer and sacrifice. In confirmation, you are moved to make your everyday life a sacrifice that you join to the sacrifice of Christ on the cross (Romans 12:1). *Prophet* is from *prophētēs*, a Greek word meaning “spokesperson.” In confirmation, you are compelled to preach the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:16), just as the apostles were when they received the Holy Spirit on the original day of Pentecost (Acts 2:2–4). When you were baptized, you were made a member of the royal family of God (1 Peter 2:9). Just as Jesus showed what it means to be a Servant King, so are we called to serve others in love. In confirmation, we are inspired by the love that God pours into us in his Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5).

In his first public preaching, Jesus quoted from Isaiah the prophet: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me” (Luke 4:18). That was the beginning of his public ministry. When the bishop anoints you with chrism, you can say the same. Your confirmation is the beginning of your own public ministry. ●



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

A disciple follows the Master daily and shares the joy of discipleship with others. Not by conquering, mandating, proselytizing, but by witnessing, humbling oneself alongside other disciples and offering with love the love that we ourselves received. This is our mission...to show by our lives...that God loves everyone and never tires of anyone.

HOMILY, ROME, OCTOBER 20, 2019

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Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY

May 22
Easter Weekday
Acts 19:1–8
Jn 16:29–33

TUESDAY

May 23
Easter Weekday
Acts 20:17–27
Jn 17:1–11a

WEDNESDAY

May 24
Easter Weekday
Acts 20:28–38
Jn 17:11b–19

THURSDAY

May 25
Easter Weekday
Acts 22:30; 23:6–11
Jn 17:20–26

FRIDAY

May 26
St. Philip Neri, Priest
Acts 25:13b–21
Jn 21:15–19

SATURDAY

May 27
Easter Weekday
Acts 28:16–20, 30–31
Jn 21:20–25

SUNDAY

May 28
Pentecost
Acts 2:1–11
1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13
Jn 20:19–23